

The Blair Bill.

Ed. Register.—The main substance of the Blair bill, as drawn up and introduced by Senator Blair of New Hampshire, is, that congress shall appropriate seventy-seven million dollars to be expended toward the support of the common schools of the various states and territories—the distribution to be made according to the illiteracy. The author of this bill has at last succeeded in getting it through the Senate, but when it reached the lower house, Representative Crain of Texas, chairman of the committee on education, saw fit to deposit it in one of the pigeon-holes of his desk, where it yet remains. It is to be hoped, however, that this bill will be brought before the House of Representatives, in order to give that honorable body an opportunity to defeat it. Occasionally we hear the cries of the advocates of this measure. They say we need more educational advantages, and that the government should render assistance. Now sir, every rational person holds that education is one of our greatest blessings. It tends to enlighten mankind and elevate the standard of morality. But, taking all this into consideration, we are stepping out of our sphere, when we ask the general government to come in and render aid toward the support of our common schools. This is not in accordance with the Jeffersonian doctrine of State rights. Thomas Jefferson held, that, in this government, each state should have its own organizations, institutions, etc. Let us have education, but let each state appropriate and expend its own money.

Were Thomas Jefferson living to-day, he would scorn at the idea of national aid for education. But the advocates of this measure will say they want to educate the illiterates of the South. Every person, who has acquired any information on this subject, knows the majority of illiterates are in the southern states. Now as the number of colored people in the south is almost equal to the number of whites in that section, it goes to show that illiteracy is principally among the colored people. According to the census of 1880, seventy per cent. of the colored people of the United States were unable to write. Again, this plainly shows us that the Blair bill is only a scheme for the government to appropriate heavy sums of money to educate the negro.

We say let the negro be educated. Give him an opportunity to become a better citizen, but let his state attend to it for him, just as we want our state to do for us. Because Ohio has a good school system, and because her people have taken advantage of the opportunity afforded them, she, as a state, must see heavy sums of this government money pass her door going to Georgia and other southern states to be distributed according to the number of illiterates, who have refused to take advantage of the opportunities that have been offered them in the way of education. Are not the southern states, with their wealth in sugar and cotton plantations and with their booming industries, able to maintain a common school system? Is not Texas, abounding in wealth as it does financially able to maintain a common school? Yet illiterates are there in thousands. Let us examine now some of the statistics of 1885 and 1886, and see the condition of the public schools of the south. Alabama, with its school population of 450,960 enrolled in its public schools 252,892, while the expenses to run these schools amounted to \$750,000. Arkansas, with its school population of 358,000 enrolled 176,000 only and paid out \$867,000. Georgia, with its school population of 508,722 enrolled 319,724 and expended \$712,000. Mississippi, out of its school population of 450,000, enrolled 305,000 and expended \$850,000. Texas out of 331,474 enrolled 261,121 and expended \$2,167,000.

Now, sir, the foregoing statistics of enrollment and expenditures have reference to public schools only. Besides these sums, there is also a fund known as the Peabody fund, used to help support the schools of the south. It is true some of these states do not expend very heavy sums, but if the people of a state will not take advantage of a \$750,000 educational system and free themselves from illiteracy, we are to infer that they would not take advantage of a \$10,000,000 educational system—were such afforded them. Again, if Arkansas expends only \$867,000 for public schools, and if we want better advantages we can just simply cross into Texas which expends over two millions of dollars. Before proceeding farther, let's look at our condition. Missouri has illiterates, but not so many as other states have. We have some illiterates all around us in every school district. Now, sir, I presume that Missouri, with its school population of 812,425 and with its \$4,328,596 educational system, is to receive national aid and be sneered at in the future as one of the dependent, pauper states. Besides all this, take into consideration the value of school property, the various school funds—capital funds, etc., amounting to millions, the interest of which goes to the support of public schools. So much now for these facts and figures; but let's drop back to the Jeffersonian idea of state and national affairs. Is it right for the government to give aid to the states? Shall the states become dependent and wait for the government

to help them, or shall they strive to become prosperous and independent? If we receive national aid for one thing we have a right to demand aid for other things. Where would be the justice if the Missouri legislature would appropriate a heavy sum of money to support the public schools in the mineral districts of the State, because the people of that section were the laboring classes? The people would say for these school districts (rich in mineral lands) to keep up their own schools. The principle that applies to one must also apply to the other. If the government has any right to come in and aid the south in education, is it not reasonable to think that Missouri has a right to aid certain localities? According to the Blair bill argument, because Iron county has plenty of money in her treasury, the county court would have a right to appropriate a few hundred to aid some country school district that was unable financially to have more than a four months' term of school. Where would be the justice in this? Still the same principle may be applied here.

Mr. Editor, as I stated in the beginning, I am in favor of education for all, regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude; but I emphasize the following: *Let each state look after and support its own public schools.* Respectfully, I.

Southern California.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, }
San Jacinto Valley, California. }

Ed. Register.—Since writing my last to your paper, my interest in this strange and delightful country continues to increase. The very coldest weather we have had has not frozen ice over an half inch thick, that we know of. Snow has come down unusually low on the mountain sides. The oldest residents all declare that this winter has been unusually severe.

We paid a visit to the Webster Ranch and there saw a castor oil bean plant five years old, but during this winter's frost it was compelled to yield up its life. While there we were introduced to their orange orchard and told to help ourselves. This was my friend's first opportunity to visit and pluck the golden fruit. These oranges were the finest I ever saw—plump, clear-skinned and delicious to the taste. This ranch joins the Florida tract of land on the east. We were also taken to the apple bin and there loaded down with several varieties, and of as good flavor as anyone would wish to eat.

The great drawback to this country now is the lumber famine. It is a difficult matter to supply a fractional part of the demand. A large number of buildings would be commenced immediately but for the scarcity of building material.

The railroad grade is completed to this place and they have commenced laying the track; so in a few weeks we shall have the bustle of railroad activity. Another sign of success is the fact that the requisite number of signers petitioning for incorporation has been secured. All these good things coming almost at once, the citizens of this community have every reason to rejoice and be glad. Immigration continues to pour in from the East, and as soon as the possibilities of this valley become known to the incoming tide of population no barriers will stay its inward sweep.

It is remarkable to think that, according to a trustworthy report, the lowest thermometer has fallen was only 20 degrees above zero or eight degrees below freezing point; and also in connection with this fact is the statement of an old settler, a Spaniard, that it has been the coldest this winter of any season for thirty years. Notwithstanding all this we have greatly enjoyed the mild climate.

Arrangements are being made in the division of lands to accommodate all who come, and in prices you can be bounded by the limits of your purse. Barley and wheat sown in December is now looking well, and enough rain has already fallen to insure a good crop of all that has been sown this season. The plowing is done by gang plows, drawn by four to six horses and turning over from two to five furrows, and at the same time sows and covers the grain. The alfalfa fields and native pasture lands furnish good feed for the stock. Thousands of sheep do well on the flocks, everywhere abundant and already beginning to bloom. Often this vegetation is cut for hay, yielding two or three tons per acre. In many places the valley is beautifully carpeted with green, which forms a pleasing contrast to an abur lance of snow, apparently near by. Stately grandeur, level plain, glistening snow and growing green form a complete but attractive scene. Reading a broken description of this country and looking upon it yourself are two very different experiences. The pleasure will always be in favor of seeing for yourself, so come and see and you will believe.

March 14, 1888. E. J. S.

In Memoriam.

Ed. Register.—A light has gone out in the household. A gem has fallen from the family diadem. A bright particular star has vanished from the galaxy of a happy home. EXETER STILES is dead! Among the numberless proverbs we hear in our daily conversations are we taught that death loves a shining mark, and that the good die young. Whether these aphorisms be founded in fact or fancy, certain it is, when the Arch-Enemy sped his deadly arrow, the victim in this instance, was one more than ordinarily illustrious; and though standing at the portals of a fairly developed womanhood, she was yet in the bloom of youth and girlhood's years. Comely in person, gentle in spirit, suave in manner, intelligent and cultured beyond her years and opportunities, frank and genial with her associates, warm-hearted, loving and dutiful in the family home, and among her kith and kin, Edie possessed within herself, in an eminent degree, the

qualities which made her a favorite wherever she went, and knit her to the hearts of those who knew her best and loved her most.

None knew her but to love,
None named her but to praise.

The going out of a life of an ordinary individual is nothing. Myriads of us are born, seemingly without a purpose in the world; we flit our fretful hours upon a narrow stage without results, and disappear. And that is all, in so far as our lives are concerned. The places which knew us once know us no more—and that forever. The world is no wiser that we had been born, and may be bettered when we cease to live. But, ever and anon, there are exceptions to this so general rule. The subject of whom these words are being penned was one of these. She was something more than simply good, and pure, and loving. She was all of these and more. She was practical as well. By her winning ways and generous works, she endeared herself to all who came within the circle of her acquaintance. By these she necessarily became largely loved by her family kindred in their neighboring homes. She was the idol of her grand-parents with whom for so many years she lived and by whom she was nurtured and cultured. In return, she made them among the happiest of homes. And so she was a light to their going, a gem in their coronal, a star of hope which attracted them onward and upward. Now all this is changed. The idol is overturned. The golden bowl is broken. The light has gone out from the household, and all around and within is, seemingly, dark, dreary, forlorn and hopeless. Seemingly only. Living, Edie was an ever present comfort and joy. Dead, her personal absence may be, must be, for the time the saddest of sad sorrows. But the fragrance of her sweet memory will, always and evermore, fill the space she once occupied so lovingly and loved. The recollection of a great joy, continually returning, is a great comfort, and cannot die.

You may break, you may crush the vase as you will.

The scent of the roses will cling to it still.

Edith Bell Stiles, the subject of this memento, was born in Macon county, Illinois, November 13, 1868. In March, 1882, her maternal grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Ruddock, two married sons with their families, their daughter, Mrs. Julia Stiles (Edie's mother) and herself, came thence to the farms, near Bellevue, Iron county, Mo., on which they now reside, Edie and her mother making their home with the elders. In November of that year Mrs. Stiles died and was buried in the private cemetery of the late Dr. Matthews, near Cedar Grove Methodist church, leaving Edie practically an orphan, but without the incidents of orphanage, to the care and culture of her estimable grand-parents, with whom she resided continuously until her death, Friday, March 16, 1888, in the twentieth year of her age. On Sunday following the funeral services deemed proper on such occasions, were held in the church alluded to above, in the presence of an unusually large audience and conducted by the pastor, Rev. W. C. Enoch. And now all that remains of the loved and lost are laid to rest by the side of her mother in the Matthews cemetery.

Sweet, sweet angel girl, beloved of all, farewell!

A FRIEND.

From Goodland.

OBITUARY.

Margaret, wife of John Mayfield, (after an illness of near two weeks of measles) quietly passed away on the 15th day of March, 1888. Your writer can fully realize the loss to Mr. Mayfield, and we even weep with him, but let us look at the truth of God in the matter and we find that they yet live, kind neighbors came and carried them out of our homes and we followed with dumb awe, and saw them lay them down gently beneath the earth.

We returned to the vacant house which never could be home again. Our hearts were broken. The earth and sky have been so dark since that day. They do not come back. We listen, but get no tidings; neither form nor voice comes to us. Are they extinct? no, they live. They are not sick or weary now. They have no sorrow. They are not alone. They have joined others. They wait for us, they wear crowns that flash in the everlasting light. They wear robes that are spotless white. They meditate on the banks of the river of life. But, notwithstanding this be true, yet we weep and cry and want to tell her, too, how the last, long, fond kiss almost broke our heart, and how we wanted to die when her face was covered from our sight forever. Then again we would give our life away for one short interview. But it cannot be. She is an angel now, and in her heavenly purity waits in patient affection for the time when it shall be God's will to make of us angels too.

Yet hath my heart an inward ear,
Through which its powers rejoice;
Speak, Lord, and let me lover to hear
Thy spirit's still, small voice.
When the archangel from the ground
Shall summon great and small,
The ear now deaf shall hear that sound
And answer to that call.

W. W. HALL.

Measles are raging through this vicinity. Every precaution should be used to get them stopped.

Mrs. Mary Smith is very ill with measles, 'tis believed by some that she will hardly recover; however, we hope for better, notwithstanding the chances are against her.

'Tis reported that Miss Mary Crocker and Mrs. George Martin have been exposed to the measles, and are expecting to be sick. Also, Miss Josie P. Reed and Mr. W. H. Smith. We do hope they may have good care and a speedy recovery.

The buggy horse of Rev. N. Adams died on the road from Greeley to Belgrade, leaving the old man without any conveyance. However, Mr. J. L. Midyett, who is ever ready to do his part of a good Samaritan, gave him conveyance through to Belgrade.

It is reported that Mr. H. Latham will be our next road master. Mr. L. is, we hope, a competent man for the place, and 'tis hoped he may give as good satisfaction as Mr. Stetson has given; if he will there will be little reason for complaint. TOBIAS.

BOARD, BY THE DAY OR WEEK, at Goodenough House, near depot. For further particulars inquire of Mrs. C. M. GOODENOUGH, Proprietress.

Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Jacob Grandhomme, deceased, that the undersigned, administratrix of said estate, intends to make final settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Iron county, to be held at the Court House in Ironton, Iron county, Mo., on the first Monday in May, next—same being the 7th day of May, A. D. 1888.

AMANDA GRANDHOMME, Adm'x.

Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the partnership estate of Begley & Grandhomme, that the undersigned, A. Begley, surviving partner, and administrator of said estate, intends to make final settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Iron county, to be held at the Court House in Ironton, Iron county, Mo., on the first Monday in May, next—same being the 7th day of May, A. D. 1888.

mar2988 A. BEGLEY, Administrator.

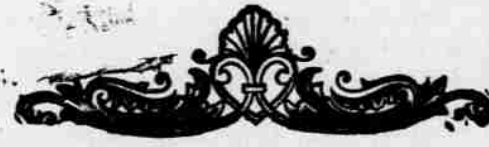
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T. S. Lopez & Sons.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue and authority of a special execution issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Iron county, Missouri, and to me, the undersigned sheriff, directed, in favor of the State of Missouri, at the relation and to the use of S. E. Buford, collector of the revenue for Iron county, Mo., plaintiff, against Hugh Cook, John B. Halleck, John A. Maule, and all unknown interested parties, defendants, bearing date, March 3d, 1888, and returnable to the April term, 1888, thereof, I have levied upon and seized the following described real estate and property, lying and being in Iron county, Missouri, as the property of said defendants, described as follows, to wit:

Northwest quarter of southeast quarter and south half of northeast quarter, section 15, township 34, range one east.

And I will, on

Thursday, 28th day of April, 1888, at the east front door of the courthouse in the city of Ironton, Iron county, Missouri, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, and during the session of the circuit court, sell, at public vendue, all the right, title, claim, estate and property of the said defendants, of, in and to the above described real estate and property, for cash in hand, to the highest bidder, to satisfy said execution and costs.

P. W. WHITWORTH, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue and authority of a special execution issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Iron county, Missouri, and to me, the undersigned sheriff, directed, in favor of the State of Missouri, at the relation and to the use of S. E. Buford, collector of the revenue for Iron county, Missouri, plaintiff, and against James Curtis, Thomas King, John B. Baker, and all unknown interested parties, defendants, bearing date March 3, 1888, and returnable to the April term, 1888, thereof, I have levied upon and seized the following described real estate and property, lying and being in Iron county, Missouri, as the property of said defendants, described as follows, to wit:

West half of northeast quarter and northwest quarter, section 21, township 35, range two west.

And I will, on

Thursday, 28th day of April, 1888, at the east front door of the courthouse in the city of Ironton, Iron county, Missouri, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, and during the session of the circuit court, sell, at public vendue, all the right, title, claim, estate and property of the said defendants, of, in and to the above described real estate and property, for cash in hand, to the highest bidder, to satisfy said execution and costs.

P. W. WHITWORTH, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue and authority of a special execution issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Iron county, Missouri, and to me, the undersigned sheriff, directed, in favor of the State of Missouri, at the relation and to the use of S. E. Buford, collector of the revenue for Iron county, Mo., plaintiff, and against Susan Johnson, H. A. Smith, Z. H. Lingenfelter, J. R. Arnold, Jas. S. Evans, John R. Mills, and all unknown interested parties, defendants, bearing date March 1st, 1888, and returnable to the April term, 1888, thereof, I have levied upon and seized the following described real estate and property, lying and being in Iron county, Missouri, as the property of said defendants, described as follows, to wit:

North half of the northwest quarter, section 22, township 35, range 1 east.

And I will, on

Thursday, 28th day of April, 1888, at the east front door of the courthouse in the city of Ironton, Iron county, Missouri, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, and during the session of the circuit court, sell, at public vendue, all the right, title, claim, estate and property of said defendants, of, in and to the above described real estate and property, for cash in hand, to the highest bidder, to satisfy said execution and costs.

P. W. WHITWORTH, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue and authority of a special execution issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Iron county, Missouri, and to me, the undersigned sheriff, directed, in favor of the State of Missouri, at the relation and to the use of S. E. Buford, collector of the revenue for Iron county, Missouri, plaintiff, and against J. C. Peckham, Assignee Peckham Iron Company, and all unknown interested parties, defendants, bearing date March 3, 1888, and returnable to the April term, 1888, thereof, I have levied upon and seized the following described real estate and property, lying and being in Iron county, Missouri, as the property of said defendants, described as follows, to wit:

North half of lots 1 and 2, northwest quarter, section 18, township 31, range four east.

And I will, on

Thursday, 28th day of April, 1888, at the east front door of the courthouse in the city of Ironton, Iron county, Missouri, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, and during the session of the circuit court, sell, at public vendue, all the right, title, claim, estate and property of the said defendants, of, in and to the above described real estate and property, for cash in hand, to the highest bidder, to satisfy said execution and costs.

P. W. WHITWORTH, Sheriff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue and authority of a special execution issued from the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Iron county, Missouri, and to me, the undersigned sheriff, directed, in favor of the State of Missouri, at the relation and to the use of S. E. Buford, collector of the revenue for Iron county, Missouri, plaintiff, and against C. H. Crocker, John T. Boring, Samuel Roop, and all unknown interested parties, defendants, bearing date March 3, 1888, and returnable to the April term, 1888, thereof, I have levied upon and seized the following described real estate and property, lying and being in Iron county, Missouri, as the property of said defendants, described as follows, to wit:

North half of the northwest quarter, section 29, township 34, range two east.

And I will, on

Thursday, 28th day of April, 1888, at the east front door of the courthouse in the city of Ironton, Iron county, Missouri, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, and during the session of the circuit court, sell, at public vendue, all the right, title, claim, estate and property of the said defendants, of, in and to the above described real estate and property, for cash in hand, to the highest bidder, to satisfy said execution and costs.

P. W. WHITWORTH, Sheriff.

Notice of Letters.

Notice is hereby given, that letters of administration upon the estate of Moses P. Collins, late of Iron county, deceased, were granted to the undersigned, by the Judge of the Probate Court of Iron county, Mo., bearing date the 22nd day of February, 1888. All persons having claims against said estate, are required to exhibit them for allowance to me within one year after the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit therefrom by the expiration of this publication, they shall be forever barred.

TAYLOR COLLINS, G. W. COLLINS, Administrators.